



An invitation to Participate in a Community Resource

Col. Harland D. Sanders Award
American College of Medical Genetics
March 27, 2009

Roberta A. Pagon, MD
Principal Investigator, GeneTests
Professor, Pediatrics
University of Washington, Seattle



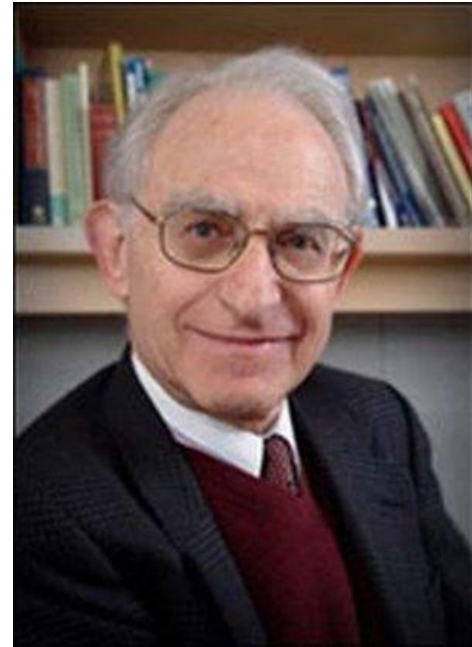
GENETests

- Past
- Present
- Future

Mentors



Judith Hall



Arno Motulsky

Sponsors



Seattle Children's
HOSPITAL + RESEARCH + FOUNDATION



National Institutes of Health

The Nation's Medical Research Agency



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON



www.genetests.org

Information resource for healthcare providers to
help integrate genetic testing into patient care

Located at

University of Washington
Seattle, WA

Funded by

National Institutes of Health

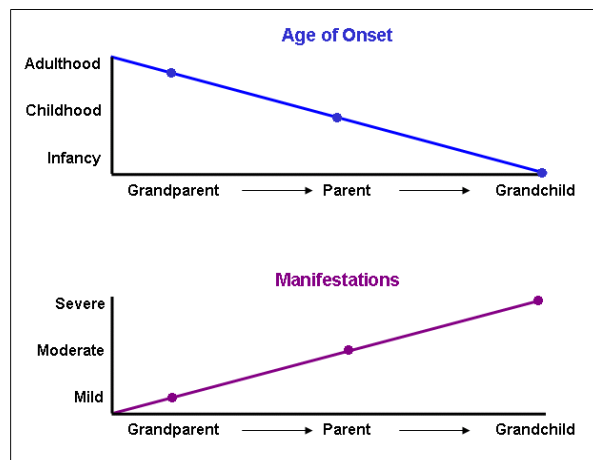
- **GeneReviews:** “User manual” for genetic testing for specific diseases
 - >475 *GeneReviews*
 - One new Review added each week
- **Laboratory Directory:** “Yellow Pages” of genetics labs
 - ~ 610 Clinical and research laboratories
 - ~1700 Inherited diseases

anticipation: The tendency in certain genetic disorders for individuals in successive generations to present at an earlier age and/or with more severe manifestations; often observed in disorders resulting from the expression of a **trinucleotide repeat mutation** that tends to increase in size and have a more significant effect when passed from one generation to the next

• Clinic

[Learn More](#)

• Illustrat



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Case Example

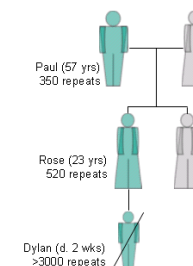
course

Case Example (anticipation): Myotonic dystrophy

Paul is a 57-year-old man with myotonic dystrophy, a neuromuscular disorder caused by a trinucleotide repeat mutation inherited in an autosomal dominant manner. Paul noticed muscle weakness in his late 20s and now has difficulty opening jars and climbing stairs. His 23-year-old daughter, Rose, experienced onset of muscle cramping and weakness as a teenager. Her son, Dylan, born after a pregnancy complicated by polyhydramnios and poor fetal movement, was extremely hypotonic and expired at two weeks of age of respiratory failure. Trinucleotide repeat analysis of the *DMPK* gene reveals that Paul has 350 CTG repeats, Rose has 520 repeats and Dylan over 3000 repeats, consistent with the observed increase in severity of the disorder in subsequent generations.

Key

◆ = Myotonic dystrophy
d. = death



	<i>DMPK</i> gene CTG Repeats	Onset	Clinical Findings
Paul	350	3 rd decade	Myotonia, weak facial muscles, general muscle weakness
Rose	520	2 nd decade	Myotonia, weak facial muscles, general muscle weakness
Dylan	>3000	Prenatal	Severe weakness, respiratory failure



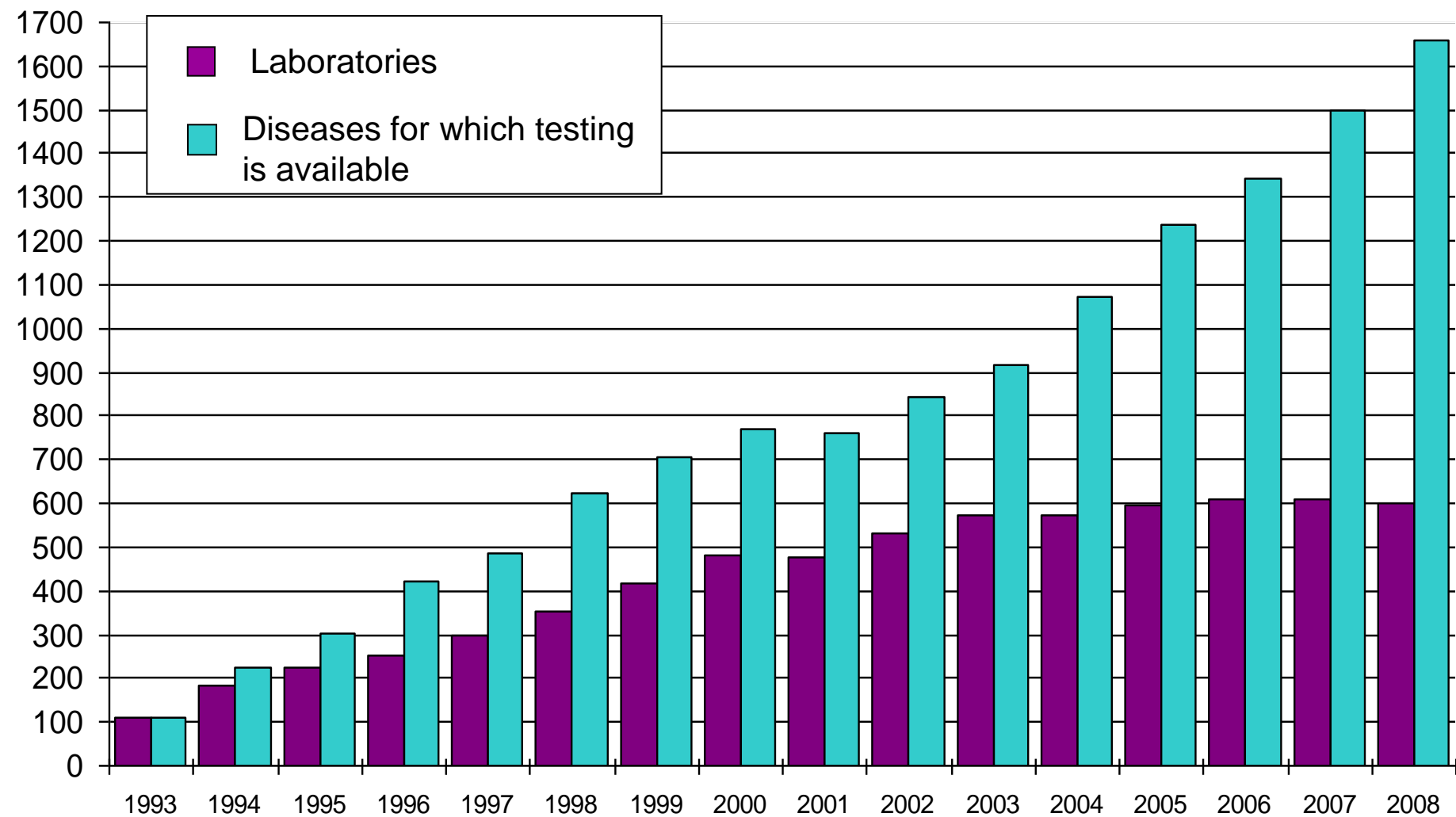
Focus

Molecular genetic testing for inherited disorders

- **Test menu ever-changing**
 - New genes
 - New test methods
- **Many labs, each testing for a few diseases**
- **Molecular genetic test uses**
 - Medical care
 - Personal decision-making



GeneTests: Growth of Laboratory Directory



Data source: GeneTests database (2008) / www.genetests.org



GENETests

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Information Conduit

- Scientists
- Colleagues
- Patients



Standard Terminology

Gene symbol: HGNC

Mutation naming: HGVS
nomenclature with reference
sequence and version



Disease Naming

- Gene-based lumping and splitting of phenotypes
- What disease is this?

Vocabulary: What are we saying?

Sporadic vs Simplex: Recurrence risk implications

- Sporadic = Chance event
- Simplex = Single occurrence in a family
 - ▶ Autosomal recessive
 - ▶ X-linked
 - ▶ Autosomal dominant: *de novo* mutation, reduced penetrance
 - ▶▶ Alternate paternity/adoption



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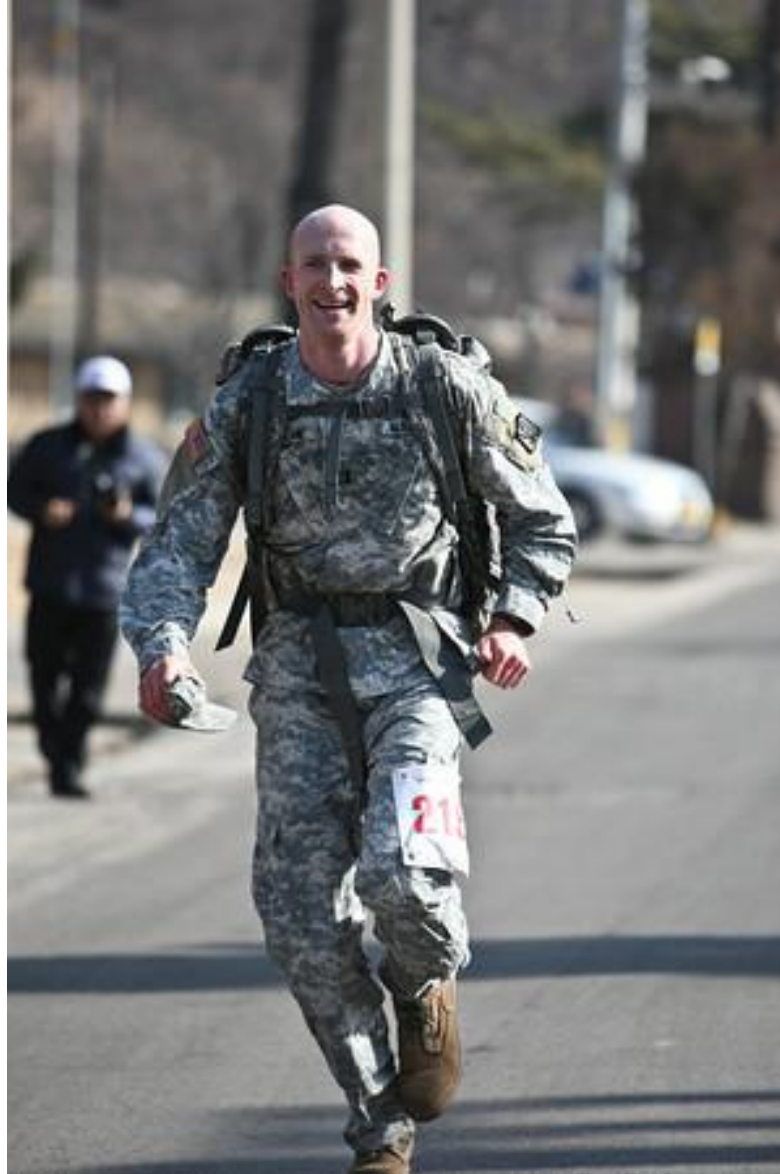
Common Complex Diseases

- What is the best way for GeneReviews/ Laboratory Directory to provide clinically useful information on complex diseases?
- Goal: Help medical geneticists & (more importantly) primary care providers



Ratings of Evidence

- For what?
 - ?Clinical utility/personal utility
 - ?Test sensitivity, specificity
- Who develops the rating scale?
- Who applies it?





Community Resource

Contact us:

Errors

Innovative Ideas

Refer:

Labs/clinics

New users

Volunteer: Write a *GeneReview*



Community Resource

- Specialty editors?
- Expanding the concept of “peer-review”?

Thank you for this honor

Principal Investigator Roberta A Pagon, MD

GeneReviews

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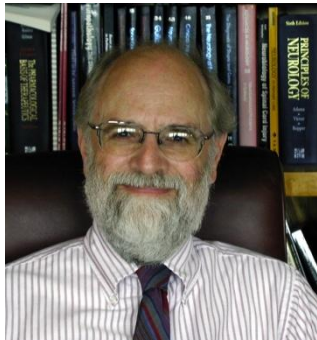
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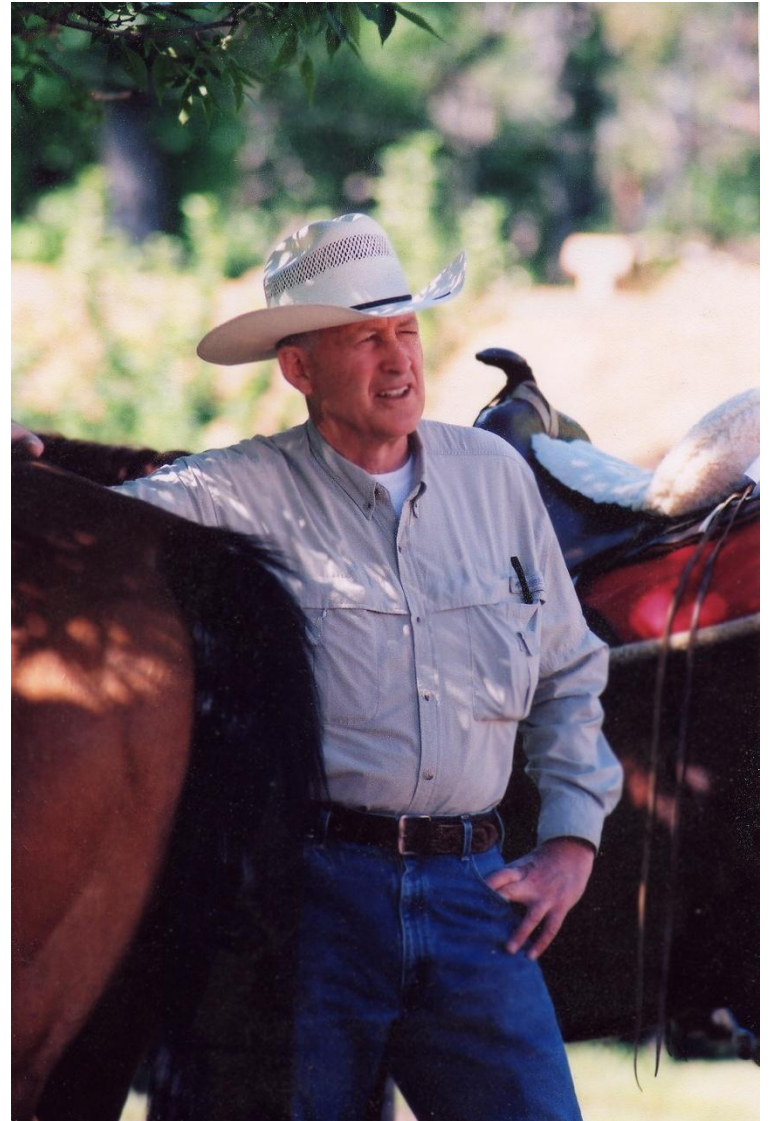
Gina McCullough Grohs
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Roberta Spiro, MS, CGC
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Thank you
